

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 /070 W  
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R 271705Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1069

USMISSION USBERLIN

INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 10458

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, VY, GW

SUBJECT: NOMINATION OF HONORARY URUGUAYAN CONSUL IN  
BERLIN

REF: (A) US BERLIN 1188 (B) US BERLIN 1034  
(C) BONN 08365

SUMMARY: AT JUNE 24 TRIPARTITE MEETING ALLIED BONN  
GROUP REPS DISCUSSED CONTINUING DIFFICULTIES SURROUNDING  
URUGUAY'S NOMINATION OF AN HONORARY CONSUL IN BERLIN  
(MATTER HAS REMAINED STALLED SINCE OCTOBER 1974). REPS  
AGREED TO REFER ISSUE TO CAPITALS AND AT SAME TIME TO  
ASK BERLIN MISSIONS TO MAKE ANOTHER HIGHER-LEVEL  
APPROACH TO SENAT CONCERNING ITS RELUCTANCE TO PROVIDE  
ALLIES WITH REASONS FOR ITS OBJECTION TO NOMINATION.  
REFTELS ARE BEING REPEATED SEPARATELY TO DEPARTMENT AND  
MONTEVIDEO. END SUMMARY.

1. BACKGROUND: IN A NOTE TO ALLIED LIAISON AND  
PROTOCOL OFFICERS IN BERLIN DATED OCTOBER 1, 1974, THE  
URUGUAYAN EMBASSY IN BONN NOMINATED A GERMAN  
CONTRACTOR, KARSTEN KLINGBEIL, AS HONORARY CONSUL IN  
BERLIN. THE URUGUAYAN EMBASSY HAS FOLLOWED-UP THIS  
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NOMINATION WITH NOTES TO ALLIED EMBASSIES IN BONN DATED

DECEMBER 11, 1974, AND MARCH 11, 1975, AND WITH FREQUENT ORAL INQUIRIES AS TO THE STATUS OF THE NOMINATION. ALLIED ACTION REMAINS STALLED BECAUSE OF BERLIN SENAT OPPOSITION AND DISAGREEMENT AMONG ALLIED EMBASSIES AND MISSIONS AS TO HOW BEST TO NOW PROCEED (SEE REFTELS B AND C). THE SENAT HAS TOLD THE BERLIN MISSIONS -- LARGELY, IT SEEMS, ON THE STRENGTH OF THE ADVICE OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE -- THAT THEY CONSIDER KLINGBEIL UNSUITABLE BECAUSE OF AN UNSAVORY BUSINESS REPUTATION AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS. DESPITE FACT THAT MISSIONS HAVE TWICE GONE BACK TO SENAT CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, HE HAS EACH TIME DECLINED TO ELABORATE ON OR SUBSTANTIATE THIS GENERAL ALLEGATION. MISSIONS WERE MOST RECENTLY TOLD (REFTEL A) THAT HE COULD NOT "AT PRESENT" INFORM ALLIES OFFICIALLY OF REASONS BEHIND SENAT OPPOSITION. HERE IN BONN A FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE CONFIRMED THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS APPROACHED BY THE SENAT EARLY-ON IN THE MATTER, AND REFUSED TO GET INVOLVED. WHEN UK EMB OFF PRIVATELY SUGGESTED TO THE URUGUAYAN EMBASSY, ON BEHALF OF THE THREE ALLIES, THAT THE URUGUAYANS MIGHT WISH TO WITHDRAW THE NOMINATION, URUGUAYAN CHARGE SAID HE COULD NOT TRANSMIT SUGGESTION TO MONTEVIDEO UNLESS HE HAD IT IN WRITING. WE ASSUME URUGUAYANS HAVE NO GREAT INTEREST IN CANCELLING WHATEVER ARRANGEMENT THEY MAY HAVE WITH KLINGBEIL.

2. JUNE 24 TRIPARTITE DISCUSSIONS CENTERED ON LATEST APPROACH TO SENAT AND WHERE TO GO FROM HERE. UK REP (CROMARTIE) SAID THAT IN FACE OF STRONG SENAT OPPOSITION TO NOMINATION IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO GO AHEAD AND APPOINT KLINGBEIL. HE SUGGESTED ALLIES SHOULD GIVE URUGUAYANS NEGATIVE REPLY BUT PLACE ONUS ON SENAT, STATING IN NOTE TO URUGUAYAN EMBASSY THAT WE REGRET REFUSAL BUT HAVE CONSULTED SENAT AND HAVE DETERMINED THAT THE KLINGBEIL APPOINTMENT WOULD BE UNWELCOME TO IT. FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) THOUGHT IT DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT THIS APPROACH SINCE THE SENAT IS NOT EVEN OFFICIALLY TO BE CONSULTED IN SUCH MATTERS. HE SAID THE FRENCH DON'T FEEL STRONGLY WHETHER THE NOMINATION SHOULD BE ACCEPTED OR REFUSED BUT WOULD BE OPPOSED, IF CONFIDENTIAL

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DECISION IS TO REFUSE, TO PLACING BLAME ON SENAT. SUCH A REFUSAL (FOR THE FIRST TIME) WOULD HIT THE PAPERS AND EVENTUALLY END UP ON ALLIED DOORSTEPS. US REP AGREED THAT UK APPROACH WOULD BE BAD PRECEDENT FOR FUTURE. ON SUBSTANCE OF ISSUE, US REP REITERATED CONTINUING VIEW OF EMBASSY THAT WE HAVE NO PRESENT BASIS FOR REJECTING THE NOMINATION. ALLIES NEED TO KNOW THE GROUNDS ON WHICH WE ARE BEING ASKED BY THE

SENAT TO REFUSE THE NOMINATION, EVEN IF WE DO NOT TELL  
THE URUGUAYANS, IN ORDER TO SATISFY OURSELVES THAT THE  
REASON IS SUFFICIENT. IF CONVINCED THAT THERE IS MORE  
INVOLVED THAN PERSONAL ANIMUS OR POLITICAL RIVALRY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 10458

(KLINGBEIL IS REPORTEDLY A HEAVY CONTRIBUTOR TO CDU),  
US REP SUGGESTED THAT IN TURNING DOWN NOMINATION WE  
AVOID GIVING REASON, WHICH ACCORDING TO VIENNA  
CONVENTION IS NOT REQUIRED.

3. DURING ENSUING DISCUSSION BOSSIEU SUGGESTED  
DESIRABILITY OF GOING BACK TO SENAT AT A HIGHER LEVEL  
AND GIVING A TIME LIMIT BY WHICH ALLIES WOULD HAVE TO  
REACH DECISION ON BASIS OF INFORMATION THEN AVAILABLE.  
CROMARTIE AT THAT POINT SAID HE THOUGHT HE WOULD HAVE  
TO CONSULT LONDON. IN HIS FINAL SUMMING UP, HOWEVER,  
CROMARTIE IMPLIED A SHIFT IN POSITION BY SUGGESTING  
THAT ALLIED MISSIONS NOW BE INSTRUCTED TO APPROACH  
SENAT CHIEF OF CHANCELLERY HERZ AND TELL HIM (A) THAT  
THE ALLIES ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO REFUSE THE  
NOMINATION UNLESS WE HAVE SOMETHING MORE EXPLICIT, AT

LEAST FOR OUR OWN INFORMATION; (B) THAT THE REPLY TO THE URUGUAYANS IS LONG-OUTSTANDING; AND (C) THAT WE WILL HAVE TO MAKE OUR DECISION IN THE NEAR FUTURE. US AND FRENCH REPS AGREED WITH THIS LINE OF ACTION, AS WELL AS WITH UK REQUEST THAT STATUS OF KLINGBEIL CASE NOW BE REPORTED TO CAPITALS.

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4. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED. AS INDICATED ABOVE, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR APPROVING OR REJECTING THE NOMINATION RESTS WITH THE THREE ALLIES, NOT WITH THE SENAT. URBAN'S COMMENTS TO FRENCH PROTOCOL OFFICER (REF B) COULD, OF COURSE, BE INTERPRETED TO MEAN THAT KLINGBEIL IS UNDER INVESTIGATION OR IS ABOUT TO BE INDICTED FOR SOME CRIMINAL OFFENSE. IF THIS WERE THE CASE, WE WOULD CERTAINLY BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT THE SENAT'S WISHES. BUT GIVEN THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP OF THE ALLIES TO THE SENAT WE FIND IT UNACCEPTABLE THAT SENAT IS UNWILLING TO LEVEL WITH US EVEN ON A HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL BASIS. IF URUGUAYANS SHOULD MAKE AN ISSUE OF THE REJECTION, IN MONTEVIDEO, WASHINGTON OR BONN, WE MIGHT WISH TO CONTENT OURSELVES WITH SAYING THAT THERE WERE SOUND GROUNDS FOR OUR ACTION -- BUT WE WOULD CERTAINLY WANT TO BE SURE IN OUR OWN MINDS WHAT THOSE GROUNDS WERE. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND ONCE MORE THAT USBER SUPPORT AN ALLIED APPROACH TO THE SENAT AT A LEVEL HIGHER THAN URBAN, IN ONE LAST EFFORT TO OBTAIN THE FACTS. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE GUIDANCE FROM DEPARTMENT.

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